(b) the number of cases disposed of by Fast Track Courts during the last three years;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the number of Fast Tract Courts; and

(d) if so, by when their number would be increased?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The information is being obtained.

(b) As per available information, Fast Track Courts have disposed of 956480 cases during the last three years i.e. 2004 to 2006.

(c) and (d) Presently there is no such proposal to increase the number of Fast Track Courts.

Review of strength of judges in High Courts

632. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mandated review of judges strength in various High Courts which was to be taken up in 2006 had been taken up;

(b) if so, whether analysis submitted by various High Courts has been studied by Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of analysis submitted by High Court of Andhra Pradesh;

(e) the decision taken by Government thereon;

(f) what are the reasons that, in spite of recommending for creation of 94 posts of judges in various High Courts in the 2003 review, Government could not fill all the posts; and

(g) the additional posts of judges given to Andhra Pradesh High Court in the 2003 review?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c) As per the guidelines for increase in judge strength, only eight

High Courts, including the Andhra Pradesh High Court, have qualified for increase in their judge strength. The High Courts have been requested to send their proposals for increase in their judge strength through the concerned State Government who has to bear the expenditure on the increased strength of judges.

(f) Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous consultative process among the constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expendituously, vacancies do keep arising on account of retirements, resignation or elevation of Judges. After the Supreme Court Judgement of October 6, 1993 in the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record & Anr. Vs. Union of India, read with the Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998, the entire process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge of a High Court lies with the Chief Justice of that High Court. Government has been periodically reminding the Chief Justices of the High Courts and the Chief Ministers of the States to initiate proposals for filling up all vacant posts of judges in the High Courts as also those which will be falling vacant during the next six months.

(g) The Andhra Pradesh High Court did not qualify for increase in their judge strength in the 2003 review.

Mobile Courts in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh

633. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up mobile courts for delivering speedy justice to rural masses and backward classes living in the snowbound and far flung areas of Uttrarakhand and Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) the proposal to set up Gram Nyayalaya is under consideration of the Government.